

## **News Release**

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### **PRELIMINARY BURLEY TOBACCO POUNDAGE MARKETING QUOTA REFERENDUM RESULTS**

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1998 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today that preliminary results from a mail referendum held February 23 through February 27 show burley tobacco growers voted to continue marketing quotas on a poundage basis for the 1998, 1999 and 2000 marketing years.

Keith Kelly, Administrator of USDA's Farm Service Agency, said results show that 117,914 of the 120,925 producers who voted in the referendum -- or 97.51 percent -- voted to approve quotas. A vote of a least two-thirds in favor was necessary to continue poundage marketing quotas.

In the last referendum, held February 1995, 96.78 percent of the voting growers favored marketing quotas on a poundage basis for the 1995, 1996 and 1997 marketing years.

Burley tobacco is grown in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

The state-by-state results are listed on the next page.

(more)

State	Votes Cast	Yes	No	% Favoring Quotas
Alabama	2	2	0	100
Arkansas	1	1	0	100
Georgia	13	13	0	100
Illinois	0	0	0	0
Indiana	3,867	3,680	187	95.16
Kansas	18	18	0	100
Kentucky	74,119	72,922	1,197	98.39
Missouri	683	653	30	95.61
North Carolina	3,926	3,816	110	97.20
Ohio	4,717	4,553	164	96.52
Tennessee	25,732	24,625	1,107	95.70
Virginia	6,498	6,333	165	97.46
West Virginia	1,349	1,298	51	96.22
Total	120,925	117,914	3,011	97.51

Further program information is available from Misty Jones, telephone (202) 720-0200, E-mail [Misty\\_Jones@wdc.fsa.usda.gov](mailto:Misty_Jones@wdc.fsa.usda.gov)

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